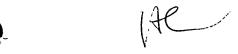


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DATE MAILED: 10/22/2002

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS Washington, D.C. 20231 www.uspto.gov FILING DATE FIRST NAMED INVENTOR ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. CONFIRMATION NO. APPLICATION NO. 09/966,028 09/28/2001 Maurice Granger 1759.053 4669 7590 10/22/2002 John Pietrangelo **EXAMINER** Heslin Rothenberg Farley & Mesiti P.C. DEXTER, CLARK F 5 Columbia Circle Albany, NY 12203 ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER 3724

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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MISCELLANEOUS ACTION

Response to Amendment

- 1. The reply filed on July 5, 2002 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): The marked-up copies of the changes to the claims and specification are not acceptable because they do not clearly show the changes being made. Specifically, while the use of bracketing to indicate the deleted subject matter is acceptable, the use of the dashed lines to show inserted subject matter renders the copies confusing and difficult to read and comprehend, and it is suggested to simply use underlining to indicate the subject matter being inserted. In response to this communication, it is only necessary to submit a supplemental amendment containing only the marked-up versions of the specification and claims (i.e., it is not necessary to resubmit the entire amendment). To expedite matters, applicant may send a copy via fax to the fax number for formal papers listed below. See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be bona fide, applicant is given ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS
- 2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Clark Dexter whose telephone number is (703) 308-1404. The examiner's

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typical work schedule is Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, and he can be reached during normal business hours on these days.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Allan Shoap, can be reached at (703)308-1082.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703)308-1148. The fax numbers for this group are: formal papers - (703)305-3590; informal/draft papers - (703)305-9835.

Člark F. Dexter Primary Examiner Art Unit 3724

cfd October 21, 2002